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### AMENDMENT AND PRESENTATION OF CLAIMS

Please replace all prior claims in the present application with the following claims, in which claims 1, 2, 4, 30, 31, 33, and 60 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, claims 3, 8-11, 14, 18-22, 25-29, 32, 37-40, 43, 47-50, and 52-59 are currently amended, and new claims 61 and 62 are added as follows.

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) A network apparatus, comprising:  
a proxy which facilitates communication with other network entities by performing  
at least one performance enhancing function, the proxy communicating with the other  
network entities via a first type of connection and a second type of connection,

~~The network apparatus of claim 2, wherein said performance enhancing the~~  
proxy establishes multiple connections of the first type associated with different  
applications, ~~said performance enhancing proxy including, and includes~~

~~a spoofing element, which spoofs some of the multiple connections of the first~~  
~~type based on their associated applications. only spoofs connections of the first type~~  
~~associated with at least one of applications with high throughput and applications for~~  
~~which reduced startup latency is desired.~~

4. (Canceled)

5. (Original) The network apparatus of claim 3, wherein said spoofing element  
assigns spoofing resources, including buffer space and control blocks, to the spoofed  
connections.

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6. (Original) The network apparatus of claim 3, wherein said spoofing element spoofs connections using at least one spoofing rule based on destination address, source address, destination port number, source port number, options, a differentiated services (DS) field or combinations thereof.

7. (Original) The network apparatus of claim 6, wherein said spoofing element defines the at least one spoofing rule in a spoofing profile.

8. (Currently Amended) The network apparatus of claim 2 3, wherein ~~said performance enhancing proxy establishes multiple connections of the first type, said performance enhancing proxy including, a the spoofing element, which spoofs acknowledgements (ACKs).~~

9. (Currently Amended) The network apparatus of claim 2 3, wherein ~~said performance enhancing proxy establishes multiple connections of the first type, said performance enhancing proxy including, a the spoofing element, which spoofs a three-way handshake between said network apparatus and another network entity.~~

10. (Currently Amended) The network apparatus of claim 2 3, wherein ~~said performance enhancing proxy establishes multiple connections of the first type, said performance enhancing the proxy including, includes a protocol element, which multiplexes multiple connections of the first type onto a single connection of the second type.~~

11. (Currently Amended) The network apparatus of claim 2 3, wherein ~~said performance enhancing proxy establishes multiple connections of the first type, said performance enhancing the proxy including, includes a prioritization element, which prioritizes connections of the first type to determine what priority level of the connection of the second type, each of the connections of the first type are assigned.~~

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12. (Original) The network apparatus of claim 11, wherein said prioritizing element prioritizes connections using at least one prioritizing rule based on destination address, source address, destination port number, source port number, protocol, a differentiated services (DS) field, a type of data contained within the connection or combinations thereof.

13. (Original) The network apparatus of claim 12, wherein said prioritizing element defines the at least one prioritizing rule in a prioritizing profile.

14. (Currently Amended) The network apparatus of claim 2 3, wherein ~~said performance enhancing proxy establishes multiple connections of the first type, said performance enhancing~~ the proxy including, includes a path selection element, which selects a path for data associated with connections of the first type across connections of the second type or connections of other types.

15. (Original) The network apparatus of claim 14, wherein said path selection element can select up to N paths (N>1), where the Nth path is selected only if the (N-1)th path fails.

16. (Original) The network apparatus of claim 15, wherein said path selection element selects a path using at least one path selection rule based on priority, a destination address, source address, destination port number, source port number, protocol, a differentiated services (DS) field or combinations thereof.

17. (Original) The network apparatus of claim 16, wherein said path selection element defines the at least one path selection rule in a path selection profile.

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B1  
18. (Currently Amended) The network apparatus of claim 2 3, wherein said performance-enhancing proxy establishes multiple connections of the first type, said performance-enhancing proxy including, includes a compression/encryption element, which compresses and/or encrypts data associated with connections of the first type for transmission across connections of the second type.

19. (Currently Amended) The network apparatus of claim 2 3, wherein the first connection uses a high layer protocol.

20. (Currently Amended) The network apparatus of claim 2 3, wherein the first connection uses one of the Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) and the User Datagram Protocol (UDP).

21. (Currently Amended) The network apparatus of claim 2 3, wherein the second connection is a backbone connection.

22. (Currently Amended) The network apparatus of claim 2 3, wherein the backbone connection is via a wireless link.

23. (Original) The network apparatus of claim 22, wherein the wireless link has high latency and high error rate.

24. (Original) The network apparatus of claim 22, wherein the wireless link is a satellite link.

25. (Currently Amended) The network apparatus of claim 2 3, wherein said network apparatus is a component of a network gateway.

26. (Currently Amended) The network apparatus of claim 2 3, wherein said network apparatus is a component of a host.

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27. (Currently Amended) The network apparatus of claim 23, wherein said network apparatus is a component of a hub.

28. (Currently Amended) The network apparatus of claim 23, wherein said network apparatus is a component of a VSAT.

29. (Currently Amended) The network apparatus of claim 23, wherein said network apparatus is a component of a router.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Canceled)

32. (Currently Amended) A method for providing data communication with a plurality of network entities, comprising:

facilitating communication with the network entities by performing at least one performance enhancing function;

communicating with the network entities via a first type of connection and a second type of connection;

~~The method of claim 31, further comprising:~~

~~establishing multiple connections of the first type associated with different applications; and~~

~~spoofing some of the multiple connections of the first type based on their associated applications~~ only connections of the first type associated with at least one of applications with high throughput and applications for which reduced startup latency is desired.

33. (Canceled)

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34. (Original) The method of claim 32, wherein said spoofing step assigns spoofing resources, including buffer space and control blocks, to the spoofed connections.

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35. (Original) The method of claim 32, wherein said spoofing step spoofs connections using at least one spoofing rule based on destination address, source address, destination port number, source port number, options, a differentiated services (DS) field or combinations thereof.

36. (Original) The method of claim 35, wherein said spoofing step defines the at least one spoofing rule in a spoofing profile.

37. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 34 32, further comprising:  
~~establishing multiple connections of the first type; and~~  
spoofing acknowledgements (ACKs).

38. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 34 32, further comprising:  
~~establishing multiple connections of the first type; and~~  
spoofing a three-way handshake ~~between the network apparatus and another~~ network entity.

39. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 34 32, further comprising:  
~~establishing multiple connections of the first type; and~~  
multiplexing multiple connections of the first type onto a single connection of the second type.

40. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 34 32, further comprising:  
~~establishing multiple connections of the first type; and~~  
prioritizing connections of the first type to determine what priority level of the connection of the second type, each of the connections of the first type are assigned.

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B1  
41. (Original) The method of claim 40, wherein said prioritizing step prioritizes connections using at least one priority rule based on destination address, source address, destination port number, source port number, protocol, a differentiated services (DS) field, type of data contained within the connection or combinations thereof.

42. (Original) The network apparatus of claim 41, wherein said prioritizing element defines the at least one prioritizing rule in a prioritizing profile.

43. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 34 32, further comprising:  
~~establishing multiple connections of the first type; and~~  
selecting a path for data associated with connections of the first type across connections of the second type or connections of other types.

44. (Original) The method of claim 43, wherein said selection step selects up to N paths (N>1), where the Nth path is selected only if the (N-1)th path fails.

45. (Original) The method of claim 44, wherein said selection step selects a path using at least one path selection rule based on priority, a destination address, source address, destination port number, source port number, protocol, a differentiated services (DS) field or combinations thereof.

46. (Original) The method of claim 45, wherein said selection step defines the at least one path selection rule in a path selection profile.

47. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 34 32, further comprising:  
~~establishing multiple connections of the first type; and~~  
compressing and/or encrypting data associated with connections of the first type for transmission across connections of the second type.

48. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 31 32, wherein the first connection uses a high layer protocol.

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49. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 31 32, wherein the first connection uses one of the Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) and the User Datagram Protocol (UDP).

50. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 31 32, wherein the second connection is a backbone connection.

51. (Original) The method of claim 50, wherein the backbone connection is via a wireless link.

52. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 31 32, wherein the wireless link has high latency and high error rate.

53. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 31 32, wherein the wireless link is a satellite link.

54. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 31 32, wherein said method is performed in a network gateway.

55. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 31 32, wherein said method is performed in a host.

56. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 31 32, wherein said method is performed in a hub.

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57. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 34 32, wherein said method is performed in a VSAT.

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58. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 34 32, wherein said method is performed in a router.

59. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 34 32, wherein said method is performed in a switch.

60. (Canceled)

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61. (New) A method for providing data communication over a satellite network, the method comprising:

communicating with a plurality of hosts over a plurality of connections corresponding to a plurality of applications resident on the respective hosts;

determining which of the plurality of connections, according to the respective applications, is to receive priority processing for transport over a backbone connection established over the satellite network;

compressing data streams associated with the priority connections based on a transmission constraint of the backbone connection; and

transmitting the compressed data streams over the backbone connection, and concurrently acknowledging the corresponding hosts.

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62. (New) A computer-readable medium bearing instructions for providing data communication over a satellite network, said instruction, being arranged, upon execution, to cause one or more processors to perform the method of claim 61.